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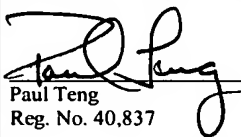
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Tetsuyoshi NAKATA et al.

Serial No.: 10/553,258

Date Filed: October 11, 2005

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
 Paul Teng Reg. No. 40,837	August 8, 2007 Date

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In order to ensure compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97(a)-(d), Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to §1.97(b)(3). To the best of the Applicant's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this application.

Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). The reference identified on the annexed Form PTO-1449 was cited in a May 18, 2007 Japanese official action in connection with corresponding Japanese patent application. A copy of the May 18, 2007 official action is enclosed herewith. A copy of the reference is also enclosed. The reference listed in the Form PTO-1449 annexed to this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

References JP6-234256 and JP8-309965 cited in the May 18, 2007 Japanese official action were previously submitted along with the Information Disclosure Statement filed January

5, 2007 and are therefore not listed on the Form PTO-1449 annexed hereto. References JP2001-251878 and JP11-192692 cited in the May 18, 2007 Japanese official action were previously submitted along with the Information Disclosure Statement filed October 11, 2005 and are therefore not listed on the Form PTO-1449 annexed hereto.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in the annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that are required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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